

Maria Pellegrini is Executive Director of Programs at the W. M. Keck Foundation in Los Angeles. From 2004 to 2008 she served as Vice President for Research at Brandeis University where she was responsible for research infrastructure, grants and contracts university-wide, including oversight of a \$154 million science complex renewal project involving the design and construction of two new science buildings and major renovations in others. Previously, Dr. Pellegrini served as Program Director for Science & Engineering and the Liberal Arts at the W. M. Keck Foundation. Prior to that, Dr. Pellegrini spent 20 years on the faculty of the University of Southern California as Professor of Biology. During that time, she served as department chair, and as Dean of Research in the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. She was the recipient of an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Fellowship and designated a Teacher-Scholar by the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation. Dr. Pellegrini has served as a consultant to the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. She served as a grant reviewer for two consecutive four year terms at the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Pellegrini received her A.B. in Chemistry from Connecticut College, and her Ph.D. in Chemistry from Columbia University. She was a postdoctoral fellow at Caltech. Her research interests were in the area of the molecular mechanisms of protein synthesis and transcriptional regulation of ribosomal RNA genes.